

Kekari — by 1991-92

Remaining 38 small capacity exchanges — by 1992-93

[English]

Release of Sikh Detenues

5067. SHRISHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of militants have been released from Jail in Punjab this year;

(b) if so, the number of such detenues released; and

(c) to what extant it has helped in creating a congenial and harmonious atmosphere?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). According to available information from the Government of Punjab, orders for the withdrawal of 359 cases involving 481 persons were issued during the year.

(c) Militant activities have not substantially reduced.

Supply of Seeds by National Seeds Corporation

5068. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of seeds of various

varieties of oilseeds, cereal pulses and cotton indented by the Government of Madhya Pradesh from the National Seeds Corporation during 1990-91;

(b) the extent to which the demand was met or are likely to be met during 1991 by National Seeds Corporation; and

(c) whether the prices of seeds supplied by NSC were high in comparison to that of certified seeds marketed by established seeds producers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). A statement showing indent and supply of certified seed to the Government of Madhya Pradesh during 1990-91 is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) No, Sir. It may be mentioned that prices of seeds being sold by the National Seeds Corporation (NSC) are fixed, after taking into account the following main factors:

(i) Input prices and procurement prices paid to the seed growers;

(ii) Overhead expenses; and

(iii) Interest burden.

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It may also be pointed out that there is no statutory control over the fixation of prices of seeds.